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P. M. HALE, State Printer and Binder.

REPORT OF STATE LIBRARIAN.

RALEIGH, Dec. 31, 1886.

To His Excellency, A. M. SCALES,

Governor, and Chairman

Board Trustees N. C. State Library:

SIR:—As custodian of the North Carolina State Library, I herewith present the biennial report of receipts to the Library for the past two years, ending December 31st, 1886.

With great respect, sir, I have the honor to be

Your obedient servant,

J. C. BIRDSONG,

State Librarian.

To the Hon. A. M. SCALES, Governor; Hon. S. M. FINGER, Superintendent Public Instruction, and Hon. W. L. SAUNDERS, Secretary of State, Trustees of the North Carolina State Library:

GENTLEMEN:—Since the last biennial report of State Librarian was submitted (Jan. 1, 1885) to your honorable Board, the State has been deprived of the services of one of its valued officers and citizens, by the death of Captain Randolph A. Shotwell. He was elected State Librarian on the 6th May, 1885, and was removed from this life on the 31st day of July; serving the State he loved so well hardly two months. Had he been spared, he would, from his intimate knowledge of books and writers, proved one of the *best* librarians of the country.